

CLAIMS AMENDMENTS

Please cancel Claims 1-20, 24 28-30, without prejudice.

Please amend the claims as follow:

Claim 1-20 (Canceled)

Claim 21 (Currently amended) A method of inhibiting the expression of mammalian KSR comprising contacting cells which express KSR with an effective amount of ~~a nucleic acid which is complementary to a portion of the mRNA encoding KSR~~ an antisense oligonucleotide comprising a sequence substantially complementary to SEQ ID NO: 5, wherein the oligonucleotide is from about 8 to about 50 nucleotides in length.

Claim 22 (Currently amended) A ~~The method of inhibiting the expression of mammalian KSR comprising contacting cells which express KSR with an effective amount of the oligonucleotide of Claim 1~~ claim 21, whereby expression of mammalian KSR is inhibited.

Claim 23 (Currently amended) A method of treating ~~or preventing~~ a hyperproliferative condition associated with the expression of gf-Ras or heightened expression of Ras in a mammal comprising administering to said mammal a therapeutically effective amount of ~~a compound or agent~~ an antisense oligonucleotide comprising a sequence substantially complementary to SEQ ID NO: 5, wherein the oligonucleotide is from about 8 to about 50 nucleotides in length which inhibits the expression of mammalian KSR protein.

Claim 24 (Canceled)

Claim 25 (Currently amended) A method of treating ~~or preventing~~ a hyperproliferative condition associated with the expression of gf-Ras or heightened expression of Ras in a mammal comprising expressing in said mammal ~~or administering to said mammal~~ a therapeutically effective amount of ~~a nucleic acid which is complementary to a portion of the mRNA encoding~~

~~KSR~~ an antisense oligonucleotide comprising a sequence substantially complementary to SEQ ID NO: 5, wherein the oligonucleotide is from about 8 to about 50 nucleotides in length.

Claim 26 (Currently amended) A method of treating or inhibiting the progression of cancer in a mammal comprising administering to a mammal a therapeutically effective amount of a ~~compound or agent~~ an antisense oligonucleotide comprising a sequence substantially complementary to SEQ ID NO: 5, wherein the oligonucleotide is from about 8 to about 50 nucleotides in length ~~which inhibits the expression of mammalian KSR protein.~~

Claim 27 (Previously presented) The method of claim 26, wherein said cancer is selected from the group of pancreatic cancer, lung cancer, skin cancer, urinary tract cancer, bladder cancer, liver cancer, thyroid cancer, colon cancer, intestinal cancer, leukemia, lymphoma, neuroblastoma, head and neck cancer, breast cancer, ovarian cancer, stomach cancer, esophageal cancer and prostate cancer.

Claim 28-30 (Canceled)

Claim 31 (New) A method of claim 21, wherein the oligonucleotide comprises a sequence that is 100% complementary to SEQ ID NO: 5, and the oligonucleotide is 18 to about 50 nucleotides in length.

Claim 32 (New) A method of claim 21, wherein the oligonucleotide comprises a modified backbone.

Claim 33 (New) A method of claim 21, wherein the oligonucleotide comprises at least one phosphorothioate linkage.

Claim 34 (New) A method of claim 21, wherein the oligonucleotide is 15-25 nucleotides in length.

Claim 35 (New) A method of claim 34, wherein the oligonucleotide is a phosphorothioate deoxynucleotide.

Claim 36 (New) A method of claim 21, wherein the oligonucleotide is 18 nucleotides in length.

Claim 37 (New) A method of claim 21, wherein the oligonucleotide is a phosphorothioate deoxynucleotide.

Claim 38 (New) The method of claim 23, whereby expression of mammalian KSR is inhibited.

Claim 39 (New) A method of claim 23, wherein the oligonucleotide comprises a sequence that is 100% complementary to SEQ ID NO: 5, and the oligonucleotide is 18 to about 50 nucleotides in length.

Claim 40 (New) A method of claim 23, wherein the oligonucleotide comprises at least one phosphorothioate linkage.

Claim 41 (New) A method of claim 23, wherein the oligonucleotide is 15-25 nucleotides in length.

Claim 42 (New) A method of claim 23, wherein the oligonucleotide is a phosphorothioate deoxynucleotide.

Claim 43 (New) The method of claim 25, whereby expression of mammalian KSR is inhibited.

Claim 44 (New) A method of claim 25, wherein the oligonucleotide comprises a sequence that is 100% complementary to SEQ ID NO: 5, and the oligonucleotide is 18 to about 50 nucleotides in length.

Claim 45 (New) A method of claim 25, wherein the oligonucleotide comprises at least one phosphorothioate linkage.

Claim 46 (New) A method of claim 25, wherein the oligonucleotide is 15-25 nucleotides in length.

Claim 47 (New) A method of claim 25, wherein the oligonucleotide is a phosphorothioate deoxynucleotide.

Claim 48 (New) The method of claim 26, whereby expression of mammalian KSR is inhibited.

Claim 49 (New) A method of claim 26, wherein the oligonucleotide comprises a sequence that is 100% complementary to SEQ ID NO: 5, and the oligonucleotide is 18 to about 50 nucleotides in length.

Claim 50 (New) A method of claim 26, wherein the oligonucleotide comprises at least one phosphorothioate linkage.

Claim 51 (New) A method of claim 26, wherein the oligonucleotide is 15-25 nucleotides in length.

Claim 52 (New) A method of claim 26, wherein the oligonucleotide is a phosphorothioate deoxynucleotide.

Claim 53 (New) A method of claim 27, wherein the cancer is pancreatic cancer.

Claim 54 (New) A method of claim 27, wherein the cancer is lung cancer.